S/N 10/658,739 PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

ZIMMEL ET AL.

Examiner:

T. LE

Serial No .:

10/658,739

Group Art Unit:

2839

Filed:

SEPTEMBER 8, 2003

Docket No.:

2316.1794US01

Title:

RUGGEDIZED FIBER OPTIC CONNECTION

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.10

'Express Mail' mailing label number: EV495869926US

Date of Deposit: January 25, 2005

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service 'Express Mail Post Office To Addressee' service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to Mail Stop 313(c), Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b))

Mail Stop 313 (c)

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner. Enclosed for the Examiner's information is a copy of the International Search Report. Applicants note reference 6,234,683 B1 also listed in the search report was previously cited to or by the Examiner. At least some of the references were recently cited in an International Search Report mailed January 3, 2005.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 or a CPA under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d). Accordingly, no fee is due for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449.

Certification Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.704(d)

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.704(d), the undersigned hereby certifies that each item listed on the enclosed Form 1449 was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and that this communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than thirty (30) days prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. Accordingly, no patent term adjustment is due for the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

A copy of any foreign patent document or "Other Document" listed on the Form 1449 is enclosed, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2). Because this application was filed after June 30, 2003, copies of the U.S. Patents and U.S. patent publications listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are not provided.

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C. P.O. Box 2903 Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903 (612) 332-5300

Date: Jan 25, 2005

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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Alan R. Stewart Reg. No. 47,974

ARS:PLSklg

FORM 1449* INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT IN AN APPLICATION (Use several sheets if necessary)		Docket Number: Application Number: 10/658,739				
		Applicant: ZIMMEL ET AL.				
		Filing Date: 09/08/2003	Group Art Unit: 2839			

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE	
	2002/0022392 A1	02/21/2002	Below et al.				
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		FOR	EIGN PATENT DOCUM	IENTS			
	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO
	2 154 333 A	09/04/1985	GB				
	0 581 527 A1	02/02/1994	EP				
	1 333 537 A1	08/06/2003	EP				х
	1 457 793 A2	09/15/2004	EP ·				
	OTHER	DOCUMENTS	(Including Author, Title,	Date, Pertinent F	ages, Etc.)	•	-
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EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
E/O-MINACIA	DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form for next communication to the Applicant.